



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2015-2016

season of events

Thursdays at Noon

Boundaries and Borders: The Search for Identity

Elizabeth McDonald, soprano
Cory Renbarger, baritone
Deanna Oye, piano

Thursday, October 8, 2015
12:10 pm
Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park

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Program

John Greer (b. 1954)	<i>Studies and Rambles of Wasagewanoque (1996)</i> I. Voyage to Canada (study) II. Toronto (ramble) III. Sleigh Trip to Niagara (study) IV. The Resurrection of Nature (ramble) V. From Sault St. Marie <i>en Bateau!</i> (ramble and three studies) VI. Ojibway Quaince (ramble and study) VII. The Heart's Laugh (Envoi)
Charles Wakefield Cadman (1881-1946)	<i>Four American Indian Songs</i> Op. 45 - no 1. From the Land of the Sky-Blue Water - no 2. The White Dawn is Stealing - no 3. Far Off I Hear a Lover's Flute
Arthur Farwell (1872-1952)	<i>Three Indian Songs</i> Op. 32 no 2. Inketunga's Thunder Song
Martha Hill Duncan (b. 1955)	<i>Be Quiet Wind</i> (Archibald Lampman)
Matthew Emery (b. 1991)	<i>For Broken and Tired Am I</i> (Archibald Lampman)
arr. Aaron Copland (1900-1990)	<i>Ching-a-ring Chaw</i>
Steven Mark Kohn (b. 1957)	<i>The Gallows Tree</i>
arr. Andy Beck	<i>How Can I Keep From Singing</i>

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Program Notes

We are in a moment of history that the perceived threat to our borders is a daily news item. While it has become increasingly more difficult to move across our borders, we look back to a time where there was much discovery, movement and settling in new worlds and on new soil as the cultural identity of North America was being shaped (or some would argue, reshaped).

The British occupancy of Upper Canada in the early 19th century brought many commissioned military officers as well as politicians across the ocean along with their wives. Anna Jameson was one such wife that relished the opportunity to explore this new land while her husband served as attorney general. In *Studies and Rambles of Wasagewanoque* (based on her travel book *Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada*) we hear her describe the beauty of the north, complain about the weather (a true Canadian!), experience life on the water, and notate some of the popular French Canadian folk songs and songs of the Ojibway.

As we move forward in history, the Indianist movement around the turn of the 20th century was “based on the attempts to synthesize principles of western music with American Indian music.” The music of Charles Wakefield Cadman and Arthur Farwell highlight this synthesis of musical cultures as you will hear in their “Indian Songs.”

Simultaneous with the American Indianist movement, Canada experienced a surge of poets dubbed as “Confederation poets” — those born around 1860 and coming to prominence in the 1880s and 1890s.

These poets, including Charles GD Roberts and Archibald Lampman, “generally paid attention to classical forms and subjects, but also realistic description, some exploration of innovative technique and, in subject matter, an examination of the individual’s relationships both to the natural world and modern civilization.” Lampman’s poems “Be quiet wind” and “For broken and tired am I” explore both the natural world and the connection to our innermost thoughts and feelings.

Finally, no musical discussion on cultural identity can be complete without a collection of folk songs — here we present a variety of works that highlight the best (*How Can I Keep From Singing*), the brightest (*Ching-a-ring-Chaw*) and worst (*The Gallows Tree*) that our collective histories have to offer.

We invite you to come along with us as we explore this collection of songs that is our American and Canadian identities.

Biographies



across Canada and works regularly with the Ontario Youth Choir, the Toronto Children's Chorus and lectures at the University of Toronto's annual Choral Symposium. Currently Elizabeth is the president of the Ontario Chapter of NATS and is the co-founder of the website ArtSongFinder.com.

Elizabeth holds a Master of Music from the Eastman School of Music and a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of Toronto. She lives in Prince Edward County, ON with her husband and two children.

ELIZABETH MCDONALD

Soprano Elizabeth McDonald is having a diverse career as a performer and teacher. As a young artist with both the Santa Fe Opera and the Canadian Opera Company, Elizabeth understudied and performed a number of major roles including Elettra in *Mozart's Idomeneo*, The Woman in Schoenberg's *Erwartung*, Miss Jessel in Britten's *Turn of the Screw*, and Jenufa in Janacek's *Jenufa*. She has appeared with the National Ballet Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra and the Kingston Symphony, and is a regular recitalist having been featured at Virginia Polytechnic University, Eastman School of Music and the Universities of Toronto, Lethbridge, Queen's and Carlton, and the Off Centre Music Salon. The 2015-16 season will see Elizabeth present recitals in Toronto and Kingston as well as sing the soprano solos for Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Poulenc's *Gloria*.

A voice instructor at the University of Toronto, Elizabeth was selected as a 2012 National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Intern Teaching Program participant. She has served as an adjudicator for major voice festivals



CORY RENBARGER

Baritone Cory J. Renbarger is a native of North Dakota and began his musical training at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. After two graduate degrees at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, he apprenticed with numerous opera companies, including two years with the Florida Grand Opera in Miami. After a number of years of full-time singing work, he decided to obtain his doctorate degree at the University of Minnesota, where he taught undergraduate voice. Since then, he has taught at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, Houghton College in Houghton, New York, and now is the coordinator of applied voice and director of opera theater at Bemidji State University, where he is in his third year. His teaching has been in all areas of vocal curriculum, including artistic and stage direction of five full opera productions and multiple master classes as guest artist. In 2012, Cory was selected and participated in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Intern Program.

Cory continues a singing career as

an opera singer and recitalist and has performed in dozens of operas in every level of company across the United States. In 2008, he sang on the MET stage in the National Semifinals of the Metropolitan Opera Competition. In 2004, he made his European debut as Gianni Schicchi with the Opera Theater Festival in Lucca. Some of his roles have included Mozart's Figaro, Don Giovanni, and Guglielmo, Sharpless in *Madame Butterfly*, the title role in *Gianni Schicchi*, Dancairo and the Toreador in *Carmen*, Horace Tabor in *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, Marullo in *Rigoletto* and multiple roles in *Tosca*. Companies he has worked with include Florida Grand Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Dayton Opera, Ashlawn Opera, Sorg Opera, Fargo-Moorhead Opera, Minnesota Opera, Loon Opera, Dayton Philharmonic Symphony and Sioux Falls Symphony. Cory currently resides in Bemidji, MN with his wife Amanda and his daughter Bella.



forthcoming CD on the Centaur Records label features piano music by 20th century Scandinavian and Eastern European composers. In addition, her work has been broadcast on CBC Radio Two and National Public Radio in the United States. She is a P.E.O. Scholar, three-time recipient of the Government of Canada's Grant for Female Doctoral Students, and recipient of the National Association of Japanese Canadians SEAD Grant. This past summer, Deanna was privileged to serve as Visiting Exchange Professor at Hokkai Gakuen University in Sapporo, Japan.

DEANNA OYE

Pianist Deanna Oye is associate professor and chair of the Department of Music at the University of Lethbridge where she teaches studio piano, musicianship skills, and directs the collaborative piano/guitar area, a unique course series which she designed and implemented. Born and raised in Thunder Bay, Ontario, she first pursued studies in journalism at Carleton University before turning to the full-time study of the art of music. She holds a doctorate in piano accompanying and chamber music from the Eastman School of Music (Rochester, NY), and maintains a busy and diverse performing schedule as both solo and collaborative artist. She has given performances and papers at major conferences such as the International Musicological Society (Amsterdam), Pacific Northwest Chapter of the American Musicological Society, Canadian University Music Society, and the World Saxophone Congress.

Recent performances include chamber music concerts in Japan, Scotland and Germany, as well as solo recitals throughout Canada. She performed in the 2014 SoWeCa Chamber Music Festival of the East Kootenays, at the invitation of renowned violist, Rivka Golani. Her

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University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, October 8

7:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre

\$30, \$20 senior, \$10 student

buy tickets at music.utoronto.ca or call 416-408-0208

or visit the RCM box office

or at the door 90 minutes before showtime

Conducted by Uri Mayer and Chad Heltzel

Featuring soprano Danika Lorèn

Program:

Schubert — *Rosamunde*: Overture, D. 644

Colgrass — *The Schubert Birds*

Strauss — *Four Lieder*, Op. 27

Dvořák — *Symphony* No. 7, Op. 70 in D minor

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Next on Thursdays at Noon...

October 22, 2015
Opera Spotlight

A preview of the Opera Division's production of Gian Carlo
Menotti's *The Medium* and *The Telephone*.

(The full productions run November 5-8 at MacMillan Theatre -
visit music.utoronto.ca or call 416-408-0208 for tickets.)